

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /077 W

-----060169 060600Z /23

R 052000Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY SUVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6733

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, PINR, FJ

SUBJECT: NO AGREEMENT ON SOVIET EMBASSY

1. ACCORDING DEPT. OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND LOCAL DIPLOMATIC SOURCES CANBERRA-BASED SOVIET AMBASSADOR A.V. BASOV, DID NOT ACHIEVE AGREEMENT ON ESTABLISHMENT OF A RUSSIAN EMBASSY IN SUVA DURING WEEK-LONG OFFICIAL VISIT TO FIJI. HE AND HIS PARTY, SENIOR COUNSELOR RADIONOV AND CHANCELLOR SAPRYKIN, WERE TO RETURN TO CANBERRA ON DECEMBER 3.

2. RUSSIANS HAVE REPEATEDLY APPROACHED GOF FOR PERMISSION TO OPEN EMBASSY HERE. WHEN SUBJECT RAISED WITH FIJIAN ON THIS OCCASION, GOF INSISTED AT SATISFIED WITH PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS. LIKEWISE, GOF DID NOT RISE TO BAIT WHEN BASOV LINKED LOCAL REPRESENTATION TO POSSIBLE AID. FORN AFFAIRS PERMSEC KOTOBALAVU TOLD ME THAT PRIMEMIN RATU MARA UNABLE RECEIVE BASOV SINCE HE  
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TIED UP ALL WEEK WITH PARLIAMENTARY SESSION.

3. INTERESTINGLY, ONE OF BASOV'S FIRST APPOINTMENTS WAS WITH PRC AMBASSADOR MI KYO CHUN, WHICH RUSSIAN APPARENTLY WOULD HAVE PREFERRED GO UNNOTICED. LEADING DAILY FRONT-PAGED STORY CAPTIONED "THE UNEXPECTED COMRADE" OVER PHOTO OF PRC RESIDENCE "SOON AFTER BASOV'S ARRIVAL" AND OF TIGHTLY SMILING ENVOY.

STORY QUOTED BASOV AS REPLYING, "OH, NO, WE DO NOT KNOW ABOUT THAT" TO QUERY ON APPOINTMENT. PRC SPOKESMAN, HOWEVER, ACKNOWLEDGED MEETING, DISMISSING IT AS "JUST A DIPLOMATIC EXCHANGE." WITH USUAL LIGHT TOUCH, OTHER DAILY HEADED STORY, "REDS HERE."

4. RUSSIANS TOURED LENGTH OF COASTAL AREA BETWEEN NADI AND SUVA, STAYING ENROUTE AT FIJIAN HOTEL, NON-PROLETARIAN LUXURY RESORT. ONE DAY IN SUVA DEVOTED TO DUTY-FREE SHOPPING. BASOV CALLS INCLUDED GOVERNOR GENERAL, CHIEF JUSTICE, BRITISH, AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND HIGH COMMISSINERS. HE DID NOT CALL ON ME OR ON FRENCH CHARGE.

5. RESULTS OF VISIT MUST BE SEEN AS DOUBLE REBUFF TO SOVIETS: VISIT HAD BEEN SCHEDULED BEFORE ON BASIS THAT BASOV WOULD COME ONLY IF RATU MARA ACCESSIBLE, THEN POSTPONED WHEN PRIME MIN UNAVAILABLE. YET AMBASSADOR FINALLY ARRIVED, SPENT FULL WEEK WITHOUT AUDIENCE WITH PM. MOREOVER, HE FAILED GAIN AGREEMENT FOR LOCAL SOVIET EMBASSY.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NEGOTIATIONS, EMBASSIES, ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICES  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**TAGS:** PDIP, PINR, FJ, US, UR  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009